GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6564
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2005
RIVERS WATER AGREEMENT WITH ASIAN COUNTRIES
Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently signed any agreement with Asian countries on sharing of rivers water as reported in Dainik Jagran dated April 19, 2005;

(b) the years for which the Ganga water agreement has been signed between the countries;

(c) whether any objection has been raised by Bangladesh with regard to Ganga water agreement and Tipaimukh Project;

(d) if so, whether Bangladesh has demanded to release Ganga Water; and

(e) if so, the total cubic of water will be received by both the countries after signing the agreement?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b) No Sir. However, a Treaty between Governments of India and Bangladesh on sharing of Ganga waters at Farakka was signed on 12th December, 1996. The treaty shall remain in force for a period of 30 years.

(c) No objection has been raised by Government of Bangladesh regarding the treaty on sharing of Ganga waters at Farakka. Regarding Tipaimukh Hydroelectric project, Bangladesh has shown its reservation against implementation.

(d) & (e) The release of water to Bangladesh is being done as per the provisions of the treaty. There is a provision for review of the treaty by the two Governments at 5 years interval or earlier. However, so far, Bangladesh has not asked for review of the treaty.

Under this Treaty for arrivals at Farakka of 75,000 cusecs or more, India will draw 40,000 cusecs and the balance of flow will be released to Bangladesh. For arrivals between 70,000 cusecs to 75,000 cusecs, 35,000 cusecs will be released to Bangladesh and balance flow will be diverted to India. For arrivals of 70,000 cusecs or less, the waters will be shared equally (50% each) between India and Bangladesh. These stipulations are subject to the condition that India and Bangladesh each shall receive guaranteed 35,000 cusecs of water in alternate three 10-day periods during the period March 11 to May 10 each year.